

**MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL MEETING
ARTESIA, NEW MEXICO
January 14, 2014**

The City Council of the City of Artesia, New Mexico met in the City Council Chambers at City Hall on Tuesday, January 14, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. in regular session with Mayor Phillip Burch presiding, and the following present to wit:

Jose Luis Aguilar	Bill Rogers
Kent Bratcher	Nora Sanchez
Terry Hill	Jeff Youtsey
Manuel Madrid Jr.	

The following were absent:
Raul Rodriguez

Also present:
Aubrey Hobson, City Clerk-Treasurer
John Caraway, City Attorney

It was determined that a quorum was present. The invocation was given by Mayor Burch, and all joined in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Consent Agenda

Mayor Pro tem Hill moved to approve the consent agenda as written. The motion was seconded by Councilor Rogers and upon vote, the motion passed.

The Consent Agenda includes:

1. Approval of Minutes: *December 10, 2013
2. Consideration of Bids:
 - A. *Approval of award of bid to design, provide, install and train "On-Call" Services for multiple site lighting projects for the Street Department to all three (3) bidders as they meet the qualifications and the needs of the City are unknown for a multi-term contract as per the bid tabulation
 - B. *Approval of award of bid to construct 3rd Street sewer relocation (Grand & Missouri); Grand Ave. new 10" water line (8th to 13th St.) and Richardson Ave sewer line extension (North Alley & 27th St.) for the Street and Water Departments to Burn Construction Co., Las Cruces, NM
 - C. *Approval of award of Request for Proposal to provide on-call architect/engineer services for the Infrastructure, Development Director and City-wide departments to the top eleven (11) rated and ranked firms
 - D. *Approval of award of bid to construct the Solid Waste Transfer Station Roadway for the Solid Waste Department through the Infrastructure Director to Ramirez and Sons, Inc. per the Engineer of Record recommendation
3. Contracts, Leases and Agreements:
 - A. *Approval of dedication of Sewage Lift Station, Forcemain, Associated Improvements and grant of Utility Easement from Canyonstone LLC
 - B. *Ratification of approval of Memorandum of Understanding with Chaves County to share a Certified Building Official
 - C. *Termination Agreement of Holly Energy Partners Industrial Park Option
4. Appointments:
 - A. Approval of the re-appointment of Ron Davis to the Artesia Historical Museum and Art Center Commission (*term to expire January 2018*)

- B. Approval of the re-appointment of Charlie Holder to the Artesia Historical Museum and Art Center Commission (*term to expire January 2018*)
 - C. Approval of the re-appointment of Betty Price to the Artesia Historical Museum and Art Center Commission (*term to expire January 2018*)
 - D. Approval of the appointment of Kelcey McCaleb to the Artesia Historical Museum and Art Center Commission (*term to expire January 2018*)
5. Resignations:
- A. Accept the resignation of Jordan Fuentes, Water Technician, effective December 27, 2013
 - B. Accept the resignation of Toby Bratcher, Firefighter, effective December 30, 2013
6. Dates of Hearing:
- A. *Ratification of Mayor Burch's approval to schedule a public hearing for January 28, 2014 for consideration of zoning code variance for First United Methodist Church, located at 500 W. Grand Avenue
7. *Travel and Training:
- A. F&A – Permission for one (1) employee to attend Excel training in Carlsbad, NM. Registration is only cost
 - B. Executive & Legislative – Permission to attend the 2014 Legislative session in support of the City of Artesia's capital outlay request for funding the City's Automated Meter Reading Project Phase II, to attend Artesia Chamber of Commerce/Eddy County legislative reception and to attend the NMML 2014 Municipal Day. Request actual expenses and mileage.
 - C. Executive – Permission to attend the NMML Board of Directors meeting in Santa Fe, NM. Request actual expenses
 - D. Police – Permission for one (1) employee to attend Fire Dynamics & Modeling/Electrical Aspects in Emmitsburg, MD. Request actual expenses
 - E. Police – Permission for two (2) employees to attend NACA 100 Level II Training Academy in Phoenix, AZ. Request actual expenses
 - F. Police – Permission for one (1) employee to participate in the following Webinars: Critical Decisions, Why Good Cops Turn Bad, Sexual Harassment Discrimination Misconduct, Becoming a Visionary and Learning from the Best and the Worst. Registration is the only cost
 - G. F&A – Permission for one (1) employee to attend 2014 NMML & GFOA Board meetings in Albuquerque and Santa Fe, NM. Request actual expenses
 - H. F&A – Permission for two (2) employees to attend a meeting with PERA and the Eddy County Legislative function in Santa Fe, NM. Request actual expenses
 - I. Police – Permission for one (1) employee to attend Desert Snow Interdiction training in Albuquerque, NM. Request actual expenses
 - J. Executive – Permission to attend the Eastern Area Workforce Development Board meeting in Santa Fe, NM. Request actual expenses and mileage
 - K. Recreation – Permission for two (2) employees to attend the National Swimming Pool Foundation C.P.O. training in Hobbs, NM. Request actual expenses
 - L. F&A – Permission for one (1) employee to attend Making Transition from Staff to Supervisor training in Carlsbad, NM. Registration is the only cost
 - M. AC&B – Permission to attend the Keep America Beautiful National Conference in Charlotte, NC. Request actual expenses and mileage
 - N. Legislative – Permission to attend the CDBG Colonias workshop in Roswell, NM. Request mileage
 - O. F&A – Permission for one (1) employee to attend How to Communicate with Tact & Professionalism in Carlsbad, NM. Registration is only cost
 - P. F&A – Permission for one (1) employee to attend Managing Emotions Under Pressure in Carlsbad, NM. Registration is only cost
 - Q. HR – Permission for one (1) employee to attend the OSHA Record Keeping class in Albuquerque, NM. Request actual expenses
 - R. Police – Permission for two (2) employees to attend the Desert Snow Interdiction training in Albuquerque, NM. Request actual expenses
 - S. Police – Permission for one (1) employee to attend an Instructor Development course in Artesia, NM. Registration is the only cost

- T. Police – Permission for one (1) employee to attend the Field Training Officer course in Artesia, NM. Registration is the only cost
 - U. Police – Permission for one (1) employee to attend the Female Enforcers training in Albuquerque, NM. Request actual expenses
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- 8. Use of Facilities (*approval contingent upon receipt of all applicable fees, license(s) and dept approvals*):
 - 9. Routine Requests for City Facilities
 - 10. Budgeted Items:
 - 11. Non-budgeted Items:
 - 12. *Payment of Bills

Public Hearings

Mayor Burch declared the meeting open for public hearing for the following:

- 1. Consideration and approval of an ordinance amending Section 1-5-3 of the Artesia Municipal Code – Elected Officials Salaries

Councilor Aguilar stated that he was proposing an increase as follows:

- Councilor from \$600 to \$800 per month
- Mayor Pro tem from \$700 to \$900 per month
- Mayor from \$800 to \$2,000 per month

This request is because the elected officials have not had a raise for nine years, while city employees have had an increase of around 35%.

Councilor Aguilar moved to postpone consideration of this item until all members are present. The motion died for lack of a second.

No public comment was received.

Mayor Pro tem Hill stated that he was opposed to giving themselves a raise, especially since there is no opposition for the March 2014 election.

Councilor Youtsey stated that most citizens don't know what the elected officials make, but that he would support an increase for the Mayor. He would also support postponing the discussion until after the March 2014 election.

Councilor Youtsey moved to postpone consideration of this ordinance until after the March election. The motion died for lack of a second.

Mayor Burch stated that the Council has considered hiring a City Manager in the past, but that if the Mayor's salary is raised it will be difficult to reduce it, when and if the Council decides to add a City Manager.

Mayor Burch stated that he had spoken with Councilor Rodriguez who had expressed support for raising the Mayor's salary, but was not interested in raising the Council or Mayor Pro tem salaries.

Councilor Aguilar moved to move on to the next agenda item. The motion died for lack of a second.

Mayor Pro tem Hill moved to approve an ordinance amending Section 1-5-3 of the Municipal Code, regarding raising elected officials salaries. The motion was seconded by Councilor Bratcher, and upon roll call vote, with the following votes recorded:

Aye: Aguilar

Nay: Bratcher, Hill, Madrid, Rogers, Sanchez, Youtsey
the motion failed.

Personnel

Councilor Rogers, upon recommendation of the Mayor, moved to hire Gabriel Chavez to the position of Un-certified Police Officer, at a salary of \$2,879 per month (CA28). The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro tem Hill and upon vote, the motion passed.

Councilor Madrid, upon recommendation of the Mayor, moved to hire Christina Ramirez to the position of Human Resources HR Clerk I, at a salary of \$2,037 per month (CA14). The motion was seconded by Councilor Rogers and upon vote, the motion passed.

Human Resources Director Bill Thalman distributed the safety statistics for December.

City Clerk Aubrey Hobson reported that the Finance Supervisor position had been hired at a lower level, due to lesser experience in some areas. Based on her performance over the last year, an adjustment is being requested to bring the salary closer in-line with previous candidates. Councilor Rogers moved to approve the reclassification of the Finance Supervisor's salary to \$4,300 per month, effective January 1, 2014. The motion was seconded by Councilor Madrid and upon vote, the motion passed.

Public Safety

Police

Commander Smith distributed departmental statistics for December.

Councilor Bratcher moved to approve the donation of two vehicles, Unit 16 (2007 Ford Crown Victoria) and Unit 47 (2005 Chevy Impala) to the Eddy County DWI program. The motion was seconded by Councilor Youtsey and upon vote, the motion passed.

Fire

Chief Hummingbird distributed departmental statistics for December.

Chief Hummingbird reported that the Artesia CareFlight location is now the fourth busiest in the company.

Community Development

Community Development Director Tina Torres distributed departmental statistics for December.

Infrastructure

Mr. Landfair reported on the status of projects.

City Clerk

Councilor Bratcher moved to adopt a budget adjustment resolution, amending Resolution 1524, Resolution No. 1526. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro tem Hill and upon vote, the motion passed.

RESOLUTION NO. 1526

Councilor Aguilar moved to approve the donation of vehicles and equipment to the City of Santa Rosa. The motion was seconded by Councilor Youtsey and upon vote, the motion passed.

Councilor Bratcher moved to adopt a budget adjustment resolution, Resolution No. 1527. The motion was seconded by Councilor Rogers and upon vote, the motion passed.

RESOLUTION NO. 1527

City Clerk Aubrey Hobson reported that there were no write-in candidates for the March election.

Mayor

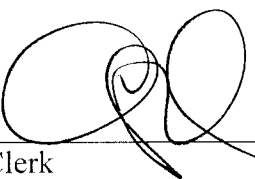
Mayor Burch reported on the status of the demolition of the old county buildings at First and Texas.

Mayor Burch reported that the ribbon cutting for the new library will be Saturday, March 1st.

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m. January 14, 2014.


Mayor

ATTEST:



City Clerk